

# NEBRASKA STATE FIRE MARSHAL OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION



**Interpretation Number:** 03-06

**Date:** 1 February 2007

**Pamphlet Number:** NFPA 24 (2002) NFPA 13 (2002);  
NFPA 13R (2002); Title 153, Chapter 19

**Section(s):** 3.3.1, 10.10.1; 10.10.1, 16.1; 6.2.2;  
001.01(2), 001.02 003

**Comments:** Approval of a NFPA 13 system requires a Material and Test Certificate for both the Underground and Aboveground piping. Approval of a NFPA 13R system requires a Material and Test Certificate for the Aboveground piping. NFPA 13D system does not require either certificate.

**Question:** How does Title 153, Chapter 19 apply to Certified Water-Based Fire Protection System Contractors and work conducted on underground piping for Water-Based Fire Protection Systems?

**Response:** Title 153, Chapter 19 defines a "Water Based Fire Protection System" in part as "a system of **overhead** piping..." and requires any water-based fire protection system contractor who wishes to install, repair, alter, add to, maintain, or inspect a water-based fire protection system in the State of Nebraska to be certified by the Nebraska State Fire Marshal.

Title 153, Chapter 19 does not require work on the underground portion of the piping as defined by Private Fire Service Main in NFPA 24, to be conducted by a certified water-based fire protection system contractor.

Title 153, Chapter 19 does require all system testing required by currently adopted NFPA standards to be conducted and upon completion of all required system testing the installing contractor shall complete a Contractor's Material and Test Certificate Form covering the work performed. Unless the installation is a NFPA 13R or 13D system, forms must be completed for both the aboveground and underground piping used by a water-based fire protection system.

In accordance with NFPA 24 and NFPA 13 the required and completed aboveground and underground certificates shall be furnished to the authority having jurisdiction before requesting final approval for the fire protection system. **No sprinkler system will be approved without proper test documentation for both the aboveground and underground piping used by the fire protection system.**

**Signature:** *John E. Falgione*

**Date:** 02/01/07

**Title:** John E. Falgione, State of Nebraska Fire Marshal